

People PERMITS:

Prince Andrew back on duty

LONDON (AP) — Prince Andrew slipped out of Britain and flew to Hong Kong to rejoin his Royal Navy ship after two weeks' leave for the birth of his first child, Princess Beatrice of York.



Prince Andrew

Buckingham Palace said Tuesday the 28-year-old Royal Navy lieutenant left Gatwick Airport on Monday night, hours after the palace announced the baby's name and released the first official pictures of her, taken by the prince.

Andrew's wife, Sarah, gave birth to Princess Beatrice on

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it is more than six feet high," said the governor's letter.

Jeff Mendenhall, Utah County planner, explained further that many people misunderstand the enforcement of the Uniform Building Code of 1985 which does, in fact, require permits for many basic repair jobs that ultimately change the structural integrity of a building.

"First of all, Utah County Planning Commission doesn't have any authority to set any rules," he said. "The Uniform Building Code is a statewide adopted code. It's the state Legislature that adopted it.

"We feel we've been consistent in our efforts to follow that code."

Mendenhall said the roof structure is probably one of the main structural elements of a home and failure of a roof can cause as much damage as failure of footings or walls.

Replacing a few shingles is not a problem, he said. "But where the intent is to replace the roof, we do require the people come in and get a permit. What we had after that hailstorm was a whole raft of self-roofers who don't realize the material has to be of the right grade, the procedure must be done correctly, the trusses have to be strong enough to support a perhaps heavier roof, the installation of the flashing etc. must be right, all kinds of things."

Mendenhall said it's important to remember the lifespan of a home is much longer than that of a family who'll probably live in the home. "We need to protect future owners as well as those present owners," he said.

Replacing one section of siding isn't a problem but residing a home can be if the siding is put over wet wood (that will rot) or damaged walls.

To tear down a structure requires a permit "even if it's old and falling apart", said Mendenhall. "We do require a demolition permit to insure that it's done right and cleaned up appropriately afterward."

"We're not out to get anybody. We're not out policing," Mendenhall said. "We do have two field inspectors who are trained to notice certain items but they don't go out looking for violations."

Mendenhall said a double fee is charged if someone comes in for the permit already in progress on a project but he said that is to encourage checking first.

"The main thing is we try and get people to check with us first. We can advise them about what to expect, what to do before they make a costly and sometimes dangerous mistake."